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INFORMAT

COUNTRY Lebanon

SUBJECT

DATE OF DIFO

Closing of Ba albek Camp and Disposition of

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. The concentration camp at Ba'albek, Lebanon, will be closed shortly. The Lebanese intermees have been taken to the Beirut prison, where they will remain until they are brought to trial. Charges against them are being prepared by the Lebanose Surete. The latter has conclusive evidence that Mustafa 'Aris, a Lebanese Communist leader and head of the Federation of Labor Unions, was responsible for the demonstrations in front of the UNESCO Conference buildings. has been strong pressure on Farid Shihab, Director of the Lebanese Surete, for 'Aris' release, and it is possible that pressure for the release of all the Communists may be strong enough to prevent their trial.

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- 2. Marie Bashabazian, one of the two most prominent women Communists in Lebanon, was taken to prison in Beirut from Dekwaneh, Lebanon. Source claims that Gabriel Furr, Lebanese Hinister of Interior, asked Farid Shihab to release lirs. Bashabazian. Shihab is reported to have told hurr that if he wished to release her, he would have to do it himself, as he, Shihab, would not be responsible.
- 3. Concerning the foreign internees, llikulinski (fm.), suspected Soviet agent, has been returned to the Soviet Union. Harry Anzac, alias Platkin, still remains at Batalbek, but will be released soon. Anzac, now over seventy years of age, is not considered to be a menace, now that his restaurant, formerly used as a Soviet letter box, has been closed. Several other foreigners, mostly refugee Slavs from Palestine are still in Ba'albek, but will be released soon. The Lebanese Sureté considers none to be of a ny intelligence interest, with the exception of a Pole, Bronislaw Stofanowski, who may have worked for the British and other services in Palestine, but probably not for any of the pro-Soviet services, source states. 25X1A

Comment. According to ar coort received in July 1948, a certain Stefanovski (fmu), who may be identical with Bromislaw Stefanowski, was said to visit the Poviet Legation in Beirut sometimes in the

evening.

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